

Message Text

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22

ORIGIN ABF-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 IO-13 L-03 TRSE-00 DOTE-00

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DESIRED DISTRIBUTION

E, IO, L, TREASURY, TRANSPORTATION, CAB

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R 120208Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

INFO AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

UNCLAS STATE 200235

FRANKFURT FOR GAO MR. EDER

E.O11652: N/A

TAGS AGAO EAIR

SUBJECT GAOREVIEW: USG ASSISTANCE TO U.S. INTERNATIONAL
AIRLINES

1. OVER PAST MONTHS, THE U.S. GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE
HAS BEEN REVIEWING USG ASSISTANCE TO U.S. INTERNATIONAL
AIRLINES, PARTICULARLY THAT CALLED FOR IN RECENTLY
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ENACTED INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORTATION FAIR COMPETITIVE

PRACTICES ACT (P.L. 93-623). UNDER THE ACT, STATE, ALONG WITH OTHER USG AGENCIES, IS CHARGED WITH REVIEWING ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION BY FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS AGAINST U.S. AIRLINES, ATTEMPTING TO ALLEVIATE THEM, AND IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES IMPOSING COMPENSATORY CHARGES AGAINST THE AIRLINES OF THOSE COUNTRIES THAT PERSIST IN DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES. MORE GENERALLY, THE GAO WISHES TO LEARN THE CURRENT STATUS OF OUR AVIATION RELATIONSHIPS AND TO GAIN INSIGHT INTO HOW AIR NEGOTIATIONS ARE CARRIED OUT. TO DATE, REVIEW HAS BEEN CONDUCTED IN WASH., D.C. (STATE, TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY, CAB), AND AT EMBASSY MEXICO.

2. GAO NOW INFORMS DEPARTMENT THAT SUBJECT REVIEW IS TO BE CONDUCTED AT ADDRESSEE POSTS, APPROXIMATELY TWO TO THREE WEEKS EACH COUNTRY, WITH WORK TO BE PERFORMED BY AUDITORS OF GAO EUROPEAN BRANCH (FRANKFURT) ALONG FOLLOWING TENTATIVE SCHEDULE: ROME AUGUST 30, THE HAGUE SEPTEMBER 10, PARIS OCTOBER 4, LONDON OCTOBER 18, BONN NOVEMBER 1. GAO BRANCH DIRECTOR WILL NOTIFY RESPECTIVE EMBASSIES REGARDING NAMES AND SECURITY CLEARANCES OF AUDITORS, PLUS THEIR ACTUAL ARRIVAL DATES.

3. DEPARTMENT WISHES BE FORTHCOMING AND COOPERATE WITH GAO ON SUBJECT REVIEW WITHIN PROVISIONS 4 FAM 930-934. GAO AWARE THAT APPOINTMENTS OR CONTACTS WITH FOREIGN GOVERNMENT OR PRIVATE SECTOR OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR CIVIL AVIATION MATTERS ARE AT DISCRETION OF AMBASSADOR, TO BE ARRANGED FOR BY EMBASSY, AND WITH CONCURRENCE OF THE APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS. IN UK AND ITALY, GAO AUDITORS PLAN TO MEET ONLY WITH COGNIZANT EMBASSY OFFICIALS AND U.S. AIRLINE REPRESENTATIVES. IF ADDITIONAL CONTACTS IN THESE TWO COUNTRIES APPEAR DESIRABLE AFTER AUDITORS ARRIVE, EMBASSY SHOULD CONSULT DEPARTMENT. QUESTIONS OR PROBLEMS ARISING DURING COURSE OF REVIEW SHOULD ALSO BE REFERRED TO DEPARTMENT. KISSINGER

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